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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 94094

SEPTEMBER, 1985

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LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(In thousands)	PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 1985				REVISED AUGUST 1985				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	2,015.9	1,799.7	216.2	10.7	2,006.2	1,780.3	225.9	11.3	1,964.5	1,782.4	182.1	9.3
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	65.1	59.7	5.4	8.3	65.1	59.0	6.1	9.3	63.4	58.8	4.6	7.2
Baton Rouge 2/	265.8	239.6	26.2	9.9	[illegible]	236.0	27.0	10.3	255.2	234.5	20.7	8.1
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	86.0	77.0	9.0	10.5	[illegible]	76.1	9.1	10.7	84.9	77.3	7.6	9.0
Lafayette 4/	112.6	102.9	9.7	8.6	[illegible]	103.2	9.9	8.7	112.0	103.8	8.2	7.4
Lake Charles 5/	75.2	65.3	9.9	13.2	75.8	65.4	10.4	13.8	75.7	65.9	9.8	12.9
Monroe 6/	65.1	59.3	5.8	8.9	63.5	57.5	6.0	9.4	62.2	56.8	5.4	8.6
New Orleans 7/	580.4	517.3	63.1	10.9	587.4	520.3	67.1	11.4	580.4	527.3	53.1	9.1
Shreveport 8/	167.2	151.7	15.5	9.3	164.8	150.5	14.3	8.7	162.8	151.4	11.4	7.0

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during September amounted to 1,593,000, an increase of 14,500 above the previous month but a decrease of 16,300 below the comparable period a year ago. Most of the increase in nonmanufacturing payrolls for the current month was centered in the government segment. Manufacturing employment was down for September as a result of a decrease in durable goods.

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During September, total employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing decreased by 1,700 workers. Lumber and wood products employment was lower largely as a result of less business for sawmills and planning mills and layoffs in the wood buildings and mobile homes industry. A layoff in the communication equipment segment was responsible for the drop in electrical and electronic equipment employment. Employee losses in the guided missiles, space vehicles and parts industry and in the ship and boat building and repairing industry contributed significantly to the downturn in transportation equipment payrolls.

Nondurable goods employment, at 94,100, showed no net change from last month. An increase in the canning and packaging of seafood contributed to the increase in food and kindred products employment. Decreased production of industrial organic chemicals primarily accounted for the drop in chemicals and allied products payrolls.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during September was 1,417,900, up by 16,200 from the August level. Within government, a seasonal increase in state and local education employment was responsible for most of the increase in nonmanufacturing employment for September. Services employment was up due in large part to a seasonal increase in educational services. Lower retail trade payrolls accounted for the downturn in trade employment for the current month. Less activity in banking was most significant in the employment decline in finance, insurance and real estate.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 123,400 production workers in manufacturing increased from $418.15 in August to $439.32 in September, an increase of $21.17 and an increase of $16.97 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were two cents lower in September than last month but an increase of $0.38 over September of last year. Weekly hours averaged 42.0 for the current month, up by 2.8 hours from the August figure.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for September amounted to 216.200, a decrease of 9,700 from the August level of 225,900. The unemployment rate for September was 10.7 percent compared to 11.3 percent last month and 9.3 percent in September of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for September was 6.9 percent, no change from last month, but 0.2 percentage points lower than September of last year. Louisiana's civilian labor force moved from 2,006,200 in August to 2,015,900 in September, an increase of 9,700. Total employment increased from 1,780,300 last month to 1,799,700 in September, an increase of 19,400.

The state's unemployment rate may fall in the upcoming months as seasonal employment upturns occur. Trade employment is expected to increase as workers are added in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. Educational services, both private and public, should continue their growth next month as a result of the new school term.

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes LaFourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Quachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1985*	August 1985**	September 1984**	Net Change from August 1985	Net Change from September 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,593.0	1,578.5	1,609.3	+14.5	-16.3
MINING	79.2	79.1	81.4	+ 0.1	- 2.2
Oil and Gas Extraction	75.3	75.8	78.3	- 0.5	- 3.0
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.9	3.3	3.1	+ 0.6	+ 0.8
CONSTRUCTION	113.0	113.1	122.8	- 0.1	- 9.8
MANUFACTURING	175.1	176.8	185.0	- 1.7	- 9.9
Durable Goods	81.0	82.7	85.5	- 1.7	- 4.5
Lumber and Wood Products	12.7	13.1	13.7	- 0.4	- 1.0
Furniture and Fixtures	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.8	7.9	8.3	- 0.1	- 0.5
Primary Metal Industries	4.0	3.9	3.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Fabricated Metal Products	12.3	12.2	13.5	+ 0.1	- 1.2
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.8	9.8	10.2	0	- 0.4
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	9.0	10.1	11.0	- 1.1	- [illegible]
Transportation Equipment	21.9	22.1	21.6	- 0.2	0.3
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.5	2.6	2.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	94.1	94.1	99.5	0	- 5.4
Food & Kindred Products	21.6	21.3	22.8	+ 0.3	- 1.2
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.7	8.8	9.5	- 0.1	- 0.8
Paper & Allied Products	10.8	10.7	11.9	+ 0.1	- 1.1
Printing & Publishing	10.1	10.2	9.9	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	27.6	27.8	28.9	- 0.2	- 1.3
Petroleum and Coal Products	11.9	11.8	12.6	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Petroleum Refining	11.1	11.0	11.6	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	3.4	3.5	3.9	- 0.1	- 0.5
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	114.2	114.3	118.7	- 0.1	- 4.5
Railroad Transportation	7.1	7.1	7.5	0	- 0.4
Transportation, ex. Railroads	65.9	65.5	69.1	+ 0.4	- 3.2
Communication & Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Ser.	41.2	41.7	42.1	- 0.5	- 0.9
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	381.6	381.8	382.3	- 0.2	- 0.7
Wholesale Trade	94.5	94.5	95.0	0	- 0.5
Retail Trade	287.1	287.3	287.3	- 0.2	- 0.2
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	57.6	58.0	58.5	- 0.4	- 0.9
Food Stores	55.6	54.9	53.9	+ 0.7	+ 1.7
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	32.9	33.0	32.7	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	85.9	85.8	86.4	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Other Retail Trade	55.1	55.6	55.8	- 0.5	- 0.7
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	84.3	84.5	83.2	- 0.2	+ 1.1
Banking	27.4	27.6	27.4	- 0.2	0
SERVICES	320.0	314.4	314.9	+ 5.6	+ 5.1
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	21.3	21.0	22.8	+ 0.3	- 1.5
Other Services	298.7	293.4	292.1	+ 5.3	+ 6.6
GOVERNMENT	325.6	314.5	321.0	+11.1	+ 4.6
Federal	35.7	36.1	34.3	- 0.4	+ 1.4
State and Local	289.9	278.4	286.7	+11.5	+ 3.2
State	98.9	92.0	100.2	+ 6.9	- 1.3
Local	191.0	186.4	186.5	+ 4.6	+ 4.5

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$439.32	$418.15	$422.35	42.0	39.9	41.9	$10.46	$10.48	$10.08
Durable Goods	408.07	379.42	388.13	42.2	39.4	41.6	9.67	9.63	9.33
Lumber & Wood Products	327.24	308.56	319.98	40.5	38.0	40.3	8.08	8.12	7.94
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	367.50	327.92	377.56	41.2	39.7	43.8	8.92	8.26	8.62
Fabricated Metal Products	448.86	398.82	368.65	47.1	42.7	40.6	9.53	9.34	9.08
Machinery, ex. Electrical	458.74	393.02	388.27	45.6	39.9	41.0	10.06	9.85	9.47
Electric & Electronic Equip.	462.45	461.03	482.45	41.7	41.2	45.3	11.09	11.19	10.65
Transportation Equipment	443.90	404.79	430.85	40.8	36.9	40.8	10.88	10.97	10.56
Nondurable Goods	469.41	456.92	454.68	41.8	40.4	42.1	11.23	11.31	10.80
Food & Kindred Products	298.07	276.75	278.80	41.0	37.5	40.0	7.27	7.38	6.97
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	169.33	161.50	194.08	31.3	30.3	40.1	5.41	5.33	4.84
Paper & Allied Products	589.36	558.98	570.30	45.9	43.5	44.8	12.84	12.85	12.73
Printing & Publishing	379.99	363.84	363.85	39.5	37.9	38.3	9.62	9.60	9.50
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	634.72	642.66	631.06	42.8	43.6	42.9	14.83	14.74	14.71
Petroleum & Coal Products	693.06	680.52	648.20	47.6	46.9	46.3	14.56	14.51	14.00
Petroleum Refining	712.40	698.02	667.78	48.2	47.1	46.6	14.78	14.82	14.33
MINING	559.73	548.30	528.98	50.2	49.8	47.4	11.15	11.01	11.16
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	528.70	501.83	466.87	42.5	40.7	39.7	12.44	12.33	11.76
BANKING	248.13	250.79	239.12	39.7	37.6	39.2	6.25	6.67	6.10

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 123,400 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 104,400 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY 09 85				REVISED 08 85			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	26,550	23,425	3,125	11.7	25,975	22,800	3,175	12.2
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	6,900	5,650	1,250	18.3	6,775	5,475	1,300	19.1
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	11,425	10,050	1,375	12.1	11,075	9,575	1,500	13.6
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	14,100	11,500	2,600	18.4	13,650	11,050	2,600	19.0
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	13,075	11,650	1,425	10.9	12,975	11,450	1,525	11.8
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	7,925	7,175	750	9.3	7,825	6,975	850	11.0
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	5,600	5,100	500	8.9	5,475	4,950	525	9.5
CAMERON (CAMERON)	5,350	4,975	375	6.9	5,275	4,875	400	7.4
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	6,300	5,325	975	15.6	6,325	5,425	900	14.5
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	7,750	7,150	600	7.8	7,725	7,075	650	8.3
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,975	9,325	1,650	15.0	10,875	9,125	1,750	16.1
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	13,800	12,200	1,600	11.5	13,300	11,850	1,450	10.9
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	6,025	5,250	775	12.8	5,825	4,950	875	15.0
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	8,900	7,825	1,075	11.9	8,825	7,750	1,075	12.1
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	15,450	13,375	2,075	13.4	15,050	12,950	2,100	14.0
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	9,525	8,200	1,325	13.9	9,250	7,825	1,425	15.5
COLFAX (GRANT)	4,125	3,450	675	16.2	4,275	3,300	975	23.2
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	36,825	33,100	3,725	10.1	36,525	32,700	3,825	10.5
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	16,525	14,350	2,175	13.2	16,550	14,250	2,300	13.8
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	7,025	6,400	625	8.9	6,950	6,300	650	9.3
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	14,275	12,375	1,900	13.3	14,125	12,050	2,075	14.7
JENA (LASALLE)	7,050	6,400	650	9.2	6,900	6,250	650	9.5
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	23,100	22,175	925	4.0	21,975	20,900	1,075	4.9
TALLULAH (MADISON)	6,600	5,700	900	13.6	6,275	5,400	875	13.9
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	13,675	11,925	1,750	12.8	13,900	11,550	2,350	16.9
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	18,575	17,025	1,550	8.3	18,225	16,550	1,675	9.2
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	15,325	14,250	1,075	7.0	15,150	14,050	1,100	7.3
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	14,875	13,250	1,625	10.9	14,500	12,775	1,725	11.9
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,950	4,500	450	9.0	4,900	4,350	550	11.1
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	9,750	8,675	1,075	11.0	9,425	8,300	1,125	12.0
MANY (SABINE)	9,100	8,025	1,075	11.8	8,900	7,850	1,050	12.0
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	4,775	4,300	475	9.9	4,475	4,025	450	10.3
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	10,425	8,700	1,725	16.5	10,250	8,400	1,850	18.0
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	36,725	30,725	6,000	16.3	36,400	29,950	6,450	17.7
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	35,550	31,375	4,175	11.7	35,400	31,050	4,350	12.3
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	38,625	32,925	5,700	14.8	37,775	31,750	6,025	15.9
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,775	3,525	250	6.8	3,525	3,275	250	7.5
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,075	7,250	825	10.2	7,975	7,075	900	11.3
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	27,150	24,200	2,950	10.9	26,725	23,625	3,100	11.6
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	13,300	11,925	1,375	10.4	13,400	11,750	1,650	12.3
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	16,000	13,700	2,300	14.4	15,775	13,325	2,450	15.5
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	16,825	14,650	2,175	12.9	16,600	14,300	2,300	13.8
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	5,725	4,675	1,050	18.2	5,450	4,325	1,125	20.6
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,175	3,700	475	11.5	4,000	3,550	450	11.3
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,950	5,475	475	8.1	5,775	5,225	550	9.7

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1985*	August 1985**	Sept. 1984**	Net Change From August 1985	Net Change From Sept. 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.6	45.0	45.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.3
MANUFACTURING	3.6	3.6	3.4	0	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	2.4	2.4	2.2	0	+ 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	0.7	0.7	0.6	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
MINING	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	3.1	3.1	3.0	0	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11.4	11.5	11.3	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	9.1	9.2	8.9	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.5	2.6	2.5	- 0.1	0
Other Retail Trade	3.7	3.7	3.6	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
SERVICES	9.7	9.5	9.8	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Health Services	4.0	4.0	4.1	0	- 0.1
GOVERNMENT	12.7	12.2	12.7	+ 0.5	0
Federal	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
State and Local	10.2	9.7	10.2	+ 0.5	0
State	5.1	5.1	5.3	0	- 0.2
Local	5.1	4.6	4.9	+ 0.5	+ 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Metropolitan Statistical Area was estimated at 45,600 during September. This estimate was 600 more than August and 300 more than September of last year.

Estimated employment in manufacturing totaled 3,600, unchanged during the past thirty days, and 200 more than September of last year. The increase since last year was in durable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing at 42,000 for September, was 600 more than last month and 100 more than September of last year. Changes during the past thirty days reflect the gains attributed to educational facilities opening for the fall semester. Since last year some gains were in construction and trades with health services showing a slight decline.

During the next thirty days total employment is expected to remain fairly stable, with an increase in the number of unemployed.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1985*	August 1985**	Sept. 1984**	Net Change From August 1985	Net Change From Sept. 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	220.0	215.9	218.1	+ 4.1	+ 1.9
MANUFACTURING	20.6	20.9	21.6	- 0.3	- 1.0
Durable Goods	4.1	4.3	4.4	- 0.2	- 0.3
Lumber and Wood Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.8	0.9	1.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	1.1	0	- 0.2
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.9	1.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	16.5	16.6	17.2	- 0.1	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	2.1	2.0	2.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	11.7	11.9	12.7	- 0.2	- 1.0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.1	0.9	0	+ 0.2
MINING	1.3	1.2	1.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	25.2	24.5	23.0	+ 0.7	+ 2.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES	10.7	10.8	10.3	- 0.1	+ 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	52.7	53.0	53.6	- 0.3	- 0.9
Wholesale Trade	11.0	10.9	10.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	41.7	42.1	42.7	- 0.4	- 1.0
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.5	13.6	13.2	- 0.1	+ 0.3
SERVICES	40.4	40.6	40.4	- 0.2	0
GOVERNMENT	55.6	51.3	54.8	+ 4.3	+ 0.8
Federal	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	53.5	49.2	52.8	+ 4.3	+ 0.7
State	32.9	28.3	31.7	+ 4.6	+ 1.2
Local	20.6	20.9	21.1	- 0.3	- 0.5

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**
ALL MANUFACTURING (1)	$522.87	$519.23	$511.34	43.5	42.7	42.4	$12.02	$12.16	$12.06
Petro-Chemicals	696.11	705.72	692.19	46.5	47.3	46.3	14.97	14.92	14.95

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,400 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 220,000 during September was up 4,100 over the August revised estimate and up 1,900 over the total for last September. Manufacturing was down 300 and nonmanufacturing was up 4,400 during the current period.

Estimated employment in manufacturing at 20,600 during September was down 300 from August's revised estimate. Durable goods, down 200 during the current period, had a drop in stone, clay and glass products due to less business in concrete, gypsum and plaster products, and in other durable goods due to less demand in blast furnaces, steel works and rolling and finishing mills, iron and steel foundries, and in miscellaneous machinery, except electrical. Nondurable goods were down due to the gradual closing of a local industrial organic chemicals plant.

Employment in manufacturing at 199,400 during September was up 4,400 over August's revised total. Mining was up due to more activity in sand and gravel, and in crude petroleum and natural gas. Construction was up due to more business in general building contractors-nonresidential buildings, highway and street construction, heavy construction, and special trade contractors. Transportation and public utilities were down due to less business in trucking, local and long distance, services incidental to water transportation, pipelines except natural gas and telephone communications (wire or radio). Wholesale trade increased due to more business in petroleum and petroleum products, and in beer, wine and distilled alcoholic beverages. Retail trade was down due less business in lumber and other building material dealers, eating and drinking places, and in miscellaneous shopping goods stores. Finance, insurance and real estate was down due to a seasonal drop in commercial and stock savings banks. Services were down due to less business and seasonal drops in hotels, motels and tourist courts, miscellaneous repair shops and related services, legal services, and in engineering, architectural and surveying services. State government was up due to a seasonal increase in public educational services. Local government was down due to budget restraints caused by decreasing revenues from tax collection.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 12,400 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $522.87 in September, up $3.64 over August's revised average. Average weekly hours were up 0.8 hours and average hourly earnings were down $0.14. More overtime by lower paid employees contributed to these changes.

Total employment for Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 239,600 during September, up 3,600 over August's revised estimate and up 5,100 over the total for last September. Unemployment at 26,200 during September was down 800 from last month's revised estimate. The September unemployment rate was 9.9 percent and the revised rate for last month was 10.3 percent. The statewide rate was 10.7 percent during September. The Baton Rouge LMA civilian labor force totaled 265,800 during September.

Seasonal gains in retail trade during the coming month should help increase total nonagricultural employment and reduce unemployment during the coming month.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 2,013 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 1,368 applicants in jobs during September.

The consumer price index for August, 1985 for all urban consumers was 323.5 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 319.6 using base period 1967=100.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1985*	August 1985**	Sept. 1984**	Net Change From August 1985	Net Change From Sept. 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	61.1	60.5	62.2	+ 0.6	- 1.1
MANUFACTURING	6.3	6.2	5.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Durable Goods	4.4	4.4	3.6	0	+ 0.8
Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.8	1.9	+ 0.1	0
MINING	8.6	8.6	8.0	0	+ 0.6
CONSTRUCTION	2.9	3.1	3.4	- 0.2	- 0.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	7.0	6.9	7.5	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Water Transportation	4.9	4.8	4.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.2	14.3	15.2	- 0.1	- 1.0
Wholesale Trade	3.2	3.2	3.8	0	- 0.6
Retail Trade	11.0	11.1	11.4	- 0.1	- 0.4
Eating & Drinking Places	3.4	3.5	3.6	- 0.1	- 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.4	2.4	2.5	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	8.8	8.9	9.3	- 0.1	- 0.5
GOVERNMENT	10.9	10.1	10.8	+ 0.8	+ 0.1
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	10.4	9.6	10.4	+ 0.8	0
State	2.8	2.1	2.8	+ 0.7	0
Local	7.6	7.5	7.6	+ 0.1	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Houma-Thibodaux LMA in September increased to 61,100, up 600 from August. Most of the changes were seasonal in nature. Since September of last year, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment lost 1,100 workers.

Manufacturing employment totaled 6,300 in September, up 100 from last month. The increase was due to seasonal factors in food and kindred products. Compared to one year ago, employment in manufacturing is up 800.

State government was boosted by a normal upturn in institutions of higher learning as the autumn semester began. Water transportation edged up. Less favorably, retail trade tapered off, largely in employment be eating and drinking places. Construction decreased in every major segment. Services showed a minor general downturn. Mining held steady. Finance, insurance and real estate showed no significant change.

Estimated unemployment in September tapered off to 9,000, down 100 from the August level. Seasonal factors were mainly responsible. Current joblessness accounts for 10.5 percent compared to 10.7 percent in August and 9.0 percent in September of last year. The September rate was slightly lower than the state rate of 10.7 percent, but much higher than the comparable national rate of 6.9 percent. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance totaled 2,053.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to show an overall increase. Retail trade will benefit from the beginning of shopping for the holiday season. Public and private educational services will probably add workers as the autumn semester moves further along. Unemployment will likely decrease as employment increases.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1985*	August 1985**	Sept. 1984**	Net Change From August 1985	Net Change From Sept. 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	95.8	96.3	98.5	- 0.5	- 2.7
MANUFACTURING	5.7	5.7	6.2	0	- 0.5
Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Nondurable Goods	3.4	3.4	3.9	0	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
MINING	15.6	15.6	17.2	0	- 1.6
CONSTRUCTION	5.6	5.6	5.6	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	7.1	7.1	7.1	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	25.4	25.3	26.1	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Wholesale Trade	6.2	6.3	6.7	- 0.1	- 0.5
Retail Trade	19.2	19.0	19.4	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	2.9	2.7	0	+ 0.2
Food Stores	3.5	3.4	3.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.9	1.8	1.9	+ 0.1	0
Other Retail Trade	10.9	10.9	11.6	0	- 0.7
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.0	4.0	4.0	0	0
SERVICES	19.3	19.4	19.3	- 0.1	0
GOVERNMENT	13.1	13.6	13.0	- 0.5	+ 0.1
Federal	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
State and Local	12.3	12.8	12.2	- 0.5	+ 0.1
State	4.9	5.3	5.1	- 0.4	- 0.2
Local	7.4	7.5	7.1	- 0.1	+ 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during September stood at 95,800, a decrease of 500 from the previous month and 2,700 less than the same period a year ago.

Manufacturing remained the same from the previous month but decreased 500 from September of 1985.

Nonmanufacturing decreased 500 from August and 2,200 from the same period of time a year ago.

Wholesale and retail trade showed a slight increase of 100 from the previous month but suffered a 700 decrease from September of 1985.

Mining remained stable from August but indicated a 1,600 decrease from the period of time a year ago.

The oil industry continued in its slump and there is not much hope for a quick recovery. Construction has also come to a near standstill because of a decline in residential and commercial construction. Construction should continue to slow down as winter weather approaches.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1985*	August 1985**	Sept. 1984**	Net Change From August 1985	Net Change From Sept. 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	58.3	57.9	60.4	+ 0.4	- 2.1
MANUFACTURING	9.5	9.3	9.7	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Durable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.8	8.6	8.9	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.9	7.7	8.0	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
MINING	2.0	2.1	2.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	3.5	3.7	4.3	- 0.2	- 0.8
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.5	4.3	4.5	+ 0.2	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.4	14.3	14.9	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade	3.3	3.2	3.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	11.1	11.1	11.5	0	- 0.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.4	1.3	1.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	10.8	10.7	11.0	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
GOVERNMENT	10.9	10.8	11.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Federal	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
State and Local	10.2	10.1	10.4	+ 0.1	- 0.2
State	3.8	3.8	3.9	0	- 0.1
Local	6.4	6.3	6.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lake Charles during September stood at 58,300, an increase of 400 from August but 2,100 less than September of 1984. The decrease was significant in nonmanufacturing.

Nonmanufacturing increased 200 from the previous month. More noticeable however was the 1,900 decrease from the same period a year ago.

Manufacturing increased 200 from August but decreased 200 from September of 1984.

The trades remained relatively stable as did transportation and public utilities, finance, insurance, real estate, services and government.

Employment is expected to increase somewhat in the next 30 days and unemployment may decrease slightly.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1985*	August 1985**	Sept. 1984**	Net Change From August 1985	Net Change From Sept. 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	54.8	53.3	53.4	+ 1.5	+ 1.4
MANUFACTURING	7.0	7.0	7.1	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.2	0.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.8	1.9	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	5.0	5.0	5.0	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.4	3.4	3.4	0	0
MINING	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	3.3	3.3	3.0	0	+ 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.7	2.8	2.7	- 0.1	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	17.0	16.6	15.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.5
Wholesale Trade	4.2	4.1	4.3	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	12.8	12.5	11.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.6
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	3.8	3.7	3.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.9	3.8	3.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.3	4.3	4.1	0	+ 0.2
SERVICES	10.4	10.5	10.7	- 0.1	- 0.3
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.5	4.5	4.5	0	0
GOVERNMENT	9.4	8.1	9.6	+ 1.3	- 0.2
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	8.8	7.5	9.0	+ 1.3	- 0.2
State	4.9	3.5	4.9	+ 1.4	0
Local	3.9	4.0	4.1	- 0.1	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, estimated at 54,800 during mid-September, was 1,500 above the August estimate. Opening of local educational facilities for the fall semester and an increase in wholesale and retail trade were responsible for the gains.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,000, was unchanged over the month; however, there was a minimal loss of 100 from a year ago. The loss was in durable goods.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 47,800, was 1,500 above the August estimate. Government was up by 1,300, reflecting the beginning of the fall semester at local educational facilities. Wholesale and retail trade experienced a gain of 400, the result of the opening of additional stores in the new mall and the beginning of the new school year. Construction was up 300 as several buildings in the new plaza reached completion. Services was down minimally, 100, as was transportation and public utilities. All other segments were unchanged.
Employment and unemployment is expected to be relatively stable over the next 30 days.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1985*	August 1985**	Sept. 1984**	Net Change from August 1985	Net Change from Sept. 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	529.1	531.4	548.9	- 2.3	-19.8
MANUFACTURING	46.7	46.5	48.5	+ 0.2	- 1.8
Durable Goods	23.1	22.8	24.2	+ 0.3	- 1.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.0	1.9	2.7	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Fabricated Metal Products	3.1	3.0	3.5	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Machinery, Except Electrical	3.0	2.9	2.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Transportation Equipment	12.7	12.7	12.6	0	+ 0.1
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	8.0	8.0	7.7	0	+ 0.3
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	23.6	23.7	24.3	- 0.1	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	7.1	7.0	7.4	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.9	1.9	2.0	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.8	3.8	3.5	0	+ 0.3
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.6	4.7	4.8	- 0.1	- 0.2
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.8	4.9	5.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	0.3	0.3	0.4	0	- 0.1
MINING	19.7	20.0	20.0	- 0.3	- 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	31.2	31.5	35.9	- 0.3	- 4.7
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	44.7	45.0	47.0	- 0.3	- 2.3
Railroad Transportation	1.9	1.9	2.0	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	14.5	14.5	14.9	0	- 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	140.1	140.2	143.0	- 0.1	- 2.9
Wholesale Trade	34.9	35.2	36.1	- 0.3	- 1.2
Retail Trade	105.2	105.0	106.9	+ 0.2	- 1.7
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	31.5	31.7	32.8	- 0.2	- 1.3
SERVICES	128.0	126.2	132.1	+ 1.8	- 4.1
GOVERNMENT	87.2	90.3	89.6	- 3.1	- 2.4
Federal	15.3	15.5	14.9	- 0.2	+ 0.4
State and Local	71.9	74.8	74.7	- 2.9	- 2.8
State	21.2	20.8	21.4	+ 0.4	- 0.2
Local	50.7	54.0	53.3	- 3.3	- 2.6

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**
All MANUFACTURING	$430.03	$413.29	$417.18	40.8	39.1	40.7	$10.54	$10.57	$10.25
Durable Goods	395.97	369.84	393.90	40.2	37.7	40.4	9.85	9.81	9.75
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	363.59	390.64	387.09	35.3	38.0	39.1	10.30	10.28	9.90
Fabricated Metal Products	445.97	407.70	445.50	47.8	45.2	46.6	9.33	9.02	9.56
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	380.27	325.37	378.84	37.8	32.7	38.5	10.06	9.95	9.84
Nondurable Goods	464.51	455.71	441.16	41.4	40.4	41.0	11.22	11.28	10.76
Food & Kindred Products	345.20	333.38	323.18	40.0	39.5	39.8	8.63	8.44	8.12
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	122.26	129.12	164.22	24.6	26.9	31.4	4.97	4.80	5.23
Paper & Allied Products	442.39	442.26	381.50	49.1	47.2	43.5	9.01	9.37	8.77
Printing & Publishing	389.30	342.88	381.30	43.4	38.7	41.0	8.97	8.86	9.30
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	660.02	696.96	624.02	41.8	44.0	41.0	15.79	15.84	15.22

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 31,000 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans LMA in September moved down to 529,100, a level 2,300 below August. Every industry division in nonmanufacturing except services exhibited an overall decrease. Manufacturing displayed scattered small gains partly offset by minor losses. Since September of 1984, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment lost 19,800 workers, partly reflecting a high level of employment last year brought by the 1984 World's Fair and other industries stimulated by it.

Manufacturing employment totaled 46,700 in September, up 200 from last month. Scattered increases in stone, clay and glass products, fabricated metal products, machinery and food and kindred products were responsible for the upturn. Chemicals and allied products and petroleum and coal products reported minor decreases over the month as the other manufacturing industries held steady. Compared to one year ago, employment in manufacturing is down 1,800.

Local government was lowered by layoffs of temporary summer workers by city and parish administrative services, which were partly offset by callbacks as the fall term began in the public schools. State government edged up in state institutions of higher learning. Construction reduced employment, mostly in work by special trade contractors. Mining made seasonal downward adjustments. Public utilities moved down, partly reflecting layoffs of temporary summer workers. Wholesale trade decreased mainly in the durable goods segment, offsetting a minor overall upturn in retail trade. Gains by food stores, general merchandise stores and miscellaneous stores offset decreases shown by building material dealers and automotive dealers and service stations. Insurance carriers sustained a general downtrend. More favorably, services were boosted by an upturn in private educational services as the fall school term began. Health services were highlighted by the opening of a new hospital.

Average weekly earnings for area factory workers totaled $430.03 in September, up $16.74 from last month's average. The increase in average weekly hours of one hour and 42 minutes was responsible for the increase. Average hourly earnings decreased by three cents. Area production workers earned $12.85 more than this same time last year.

Estimated unemployment in September decreased to 63,100, down 4,000 from August. Seasonal factors were mainly responsible. Unemployment presently comprises 10.9 percent of the labor force compared to 11.4 percent in August and 9.1 percent in September of last year. The September rate was slightly higher than the state ~~rate of 10.7~~ percent, and much higher than the comparable national rate of 6.9 percent. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance numbered 15,407. Approximately 47.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; about 35.0 percent were female.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to show an overall increase. Public and private educational services will add more workers as the autumn school term moves further along. Retail trade will need additional workers as shopping for the holiday season begins. Unemployment is predicted to decrease as many entrants and re-entrants withdraw from the labor force to return to school and employment gains absorb some of the jobless.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1985*	August 1985**	Sept. 1984**	Net Change From August 1985	Net Change From Sept. 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	143.0	142.0	145.3	+ 1.0	- 2.3
MANUFACTURING	19.9	21.1	23.1	- 1.2	- 3.2
Durable Goods	15.7	16.9	18.2	- 1.2	- 2.5
Lumber and Wood Products	0.6	0.6	0.7	0	- 0.1
Metals and Machinery	9.8	11.0	12.1	- 1.2	- 2.3
Primary and Fabricated Metals	2.0	2.0	2.4	0	- 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	7.8	9.0	9.7	- 1.2	- 1.9
Other Durable Goods	5.3	5.3	5.4	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Good	4.2	4.2	4.9	0	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.8	0.8	1.0	0	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	1.4	0	- 0.4
MINING	4.5	4.5	5.4	0	- 0.9
CONSTRUCTION	9.9	10.0	9.1	- 0.1	+ 0.8
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	7.9	8.1	8.9	- 0.2	- 1.0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	35.3	35.5	34.0	- 0.2	+ 1.3
Wholesale Trade	9.2	9.4	9.0	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	26.1	26.1	25.0	0	+ 1.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	7.9	7.9	8.0	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	32.2	32.3	32.0	- 0.1	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	25.4	22.6	24.8	+ 2.8	+ 0.6
Federal	4.5	4.5	4.2	0	+ 0.3
State and Local	20.9	18.1	20.6	+ 2.8	+ 0.3
State	6.7	6.5	6.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Local	14.2	11.6	14.0	+ 2.6	+ 0.2

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**	Sept. '85*	August '85**	Sept. '84**
All MANUFACTURING	$417.11	$426.53	$439.81	40.3	39.9	42.7	$10.45	$10.69	$10.30
Lumber and Wood Products	280.80	236.41	232.07	44.5	39.8	40.5	6.31	5.94	5.73
Metals and Machinery	436.38	425.57	457.98	42.0	40.3	44.9	10.39	10.56	10.20
Food and Kindred Products	303.89	307.60	272.74	40.9	41.4	39.7	7.43	7.43	6.87
Printing and Publishing	252.97	254.70	239.67	30.7	31.6	30.3	8.24	8.06	7.91
Petroleum and Coal Products	479.39	519.38	418.84	43.9	45.6	41.8	10.92	11.39	10.02

Data in the average earnings cable are for approximately 14,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The nonagricultural employment for the Shreveport labor area is estimated at 143,000, up from the revised August estimate of 142,000, but has dropped 2,300 below the year-ago total. Manufacturing employment for this area shows a significant employment loss due to reduction in durable goods manufacturing, while the nonmanufacturing employment total reflects a seasonal upturn in local government.

The manufacturing employment total of 19,900 is 1,200 less than the revised August figure and shows a substantial 3,200 decline from one year ago. Most of the reduction had occurred in the manufacturing of durable goods as production needs for communications equipment diminished.

In nonmanufacturing employment the most significant change is in local government with a 2,600 job increase. This shows the impact of the local schools opening for the new school year. Slight job losses occurred during the past month in construction, transportation and public utilities, trade and services. Total nonmanufacturing employment increased to 123,100, up from the revised August estimate of 120,900, and 900 more than the September 1984 estimate.

An estimated 14,600 production workers in the Shreveport labor area had average weekly earnings of $417.11, down from $426.53 last month and $439.81 one year ago. The average weekly hours were 40.3 and had average hourly earnings of $10.35.

The current civilian labor force for this area is 167,200, including 151,700 employed and 15,500 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 9.3 percent.

The employment total for this labor area is expected to become more stable. Manufacturing employment should continue near the present level for the remainder of this year. Retail trade will add jobs during the Christmas shopping season that will help to offset possible losses in mining and construction. Total unemployment for this area will likely hold near the present level.

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF AUGUST 1985

Industry	HOUMA-THIBODAUX AREA			LAFAYETTE AREA			LAKE CHARLES AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	375	335	40	516	409	107	152	137	15
Contractural Construction (15-17)	515	417	98	476	289	187	1,025	833	192
Manufacturing (20-29)	443	348	95	310	156	154	294	218	76
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	231	187	44	143	108	35	382	207	175
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	145	117	28	140	109	31	64	50	14
Retail Trade (52-59)	296	201	95	433	257	176	414	303	111
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	38	32	6	56	38	18	34	29	5
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	345	264	81	513	354	159	496	334	162
Public Administration (91-97)	29	16	13	43	22	21	119	58	61
All Others	4	4	0	19	16	3	2	2	0
Totals	2,421	1,921	500	2,649	1,758	891	2,982	2,171	811
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	327	286	41	392	332	60	311	261	50
Clerical and Sales	374	317	57	673	538	135	494	404	90
Services Occupations	205	97	108	286	106	180	255	115	140
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	33	24	9	11	6	5	13	7	6
Processing Occupations	48	30	18	138	40	98	105	78	27
Machine Trades	157	132	25	145	108	37	91	78	13
Benchwork Occupations	37	29	8	53	33	20	31	26	5
Structural Work Occupations	783	637	146	498	306	192	1,030	821	209
Miscellaneous Occupations	457	369	88	453	289	164	652	381	271
Totals	2,421	1,921	500	2,649	1,758	891	2,982	2,171	811

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF AUGUST 1985

Industry	LOUISIANA			ALEXANDRIA AREA			BATON ROUGE AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	4,200	3,605	595	98	87	11	62	45	17
Contractural Construction (15-17)	18,411	12,572	5,839	339	267	72	3,998	3,103	895
Manufacturing (20-29)	10,679	5,549	5,130	185	98	87	781	481	300
Trans., Comm., & Utilties (40-49)	4,197	2,502	1,695	54	29	25	322	200	122
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	1,886	1,187	699	33	26	7	170	94	76
Retail Trade (52-59)	9,137	5,435	3,702	256	185	71	1,215	728	487
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	1,449	1,022	427	39	32	7	184	132	52
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	13,668	7,117	6,551	490	237	253	1,411	785	626
Public Administration (91-97)	1,996	948	1,048	80	31	49	251	99	152
All Others	225	117	108	2	2	0	44	29	15
Totals	65,848	40,054	25,794	1,576	994	582	8,438	5,696	2,742
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	7,949	6,152	1,797	214	143	71	1,143	900	243
Clerical and Sales	12,020	8,544	3,476	360	274	86	1,495	994	501
Services Occupations	7,356	2,205	5,151	308	95	213	635	192	443
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	647	255	392	14	11	3	28	10	18
Processing Occupations	1,854	784	1,070	14	9	5	275	173	102
Machine Trades	3,107	2,257	850	98	77	21	383	322	61
Benchwork Occupations	3,465	1,684	1,781	67	21	46	145	88	57
Structural Work Occupations	18,792	12,357	6,435	312	246	66	3,647	2,690	957
Miscellaneous Occupations	10,658	5,816	4,842	189	118	71	687	327	360
Totals	65,848	40,054	25,794	1,576	994	582	8,438	5,696	2,742

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF AUGUST 1985

Industry	MONROE AREA			NEW ORLEANS AREA			SHREVEPORT AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	65	63	2	324	245	79	211	181	30
Contractural Construction (15-17)	464	338	126	4,818	2,870	1,948	629	362	267
Manufacturing (20-29)	172	83	89	2,747	1,303	1,444	1,366	650	716
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	62	35	27	1,878	920	958	148	97	51
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	37	22	15	754	393	361	149	95	54
Retail Trade (52-59)	376	243	133	3,017	1,499	1,518	671	369	302
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	42	29	13	721	446	275	120	102	18
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	346	228	118	5,672	2,527	3,145	816	385	431
Public Administration (91-97)	46	15	31	516	218	298	158	71	87
All Others	7	6	1	84	36	48	1	0	1
Totals	1,617	1,062	555	20,531	10,457	10,074	4,269	2,312	1,957
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	225	187	38	2,930	2,184	746	486	379	107
Clerical and Sales	409	311	98	4,306	2,734	1,572	841	601	240
Services Occupations	156	52	104	3,138	689	2,449	523	107	416
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	13	7	6	114	36	78	41	10	31
Processing Occupations	13	9	4	609	204	405	65	15	50
Machine Trades	94	64	30	979	674	305	230	138	92
Benchwork Occupations	45	29	16	510	186	324	827	412	415
Structural Work Occupations	390	263	127	4,881	2,616	2,265	715	399	315
Miscellaneous Occupations	272	140	132	3,064	1,134	1,930	541	251	290
Totals	1,617	1,062	555	20,531	10,457	10,074	4,269	2,312	1,957